

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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OAK GROVE MAN SENTENCED FOR \$18 MILLION MORTGAGE FRAUD

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Oak Grove, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for wire fraud and money laundering. Those offenses, Graves explained, were part of a wider mortgage fraud scheme among three co-defendants that involved a total of 120 loans valued at nearly \$18 million.

Carl Long, 56, of Oak Grove, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to three years in federal prison with parole. The court also ordered **Carl Long** to pay \$79,500 in restitution.

On April 21, 2005, **Carl Long** pleaded guilty to two counts of wire fraud and one count of money laundering.

Carl Long was engaged in the mortgage lending business with his son and co-defendant Anthony Edward Long, 35, of Blue Springs, Mo., through Community HomeBanc and First Equity Banc, two Independence, Mo., companies that are no longer in business. Co-defendant Mitchell David Medlin, 43, of Lee's Summit, Mo., was engaged in residential and light commercial construction, doing business as M&R Construction, LLC, in Lee's Summit. Anthony Long and Medlin also pleaded guilty and have been sentenced.

According to Graves, the three co-defendants induced individuals to obtain loans in order to purchase duplexes, primarily in Lee's Summit and Independence at Westwind, Westvale and Viking Place. They caused lending institutions to approve those loans, all based on false and fraudulent information. **Long** admitted that he submitted or caused to be submitted 26 loan applications for properties at Westwind and Westvale, totaling more than \$3.6 million.

From Dec. 4, 2000, to Aug. 20, 2003, the scheme used investment properties as a means

to generate excess loan funds by obtaining inflated appraisals. Those inflated appraisals, Graves explained, were based on false rental fees, phony lease agreements, fabricated comparable listings and sales, and false statements in loan applications.

Anthony Long was sentenced on Oct. 5, 2005, to three years and three months in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered **Anthony Long** to pay \$1,388,126 in restitution. **Medlin** was also sentenced on Oct. 5, 2005, to five years of probation, including six months in a halfway house and six months of home detention. The court also ordered **Medlin** to pay \$1,388,126 in restitution.

On April 21 and 22, 2005, respectively, **Medlin** and **Anthony Long** pleaded guilty to wire fraud and money laundering related to the mortgage fraud scheme. On June 23, 2005, **Anthony Long** also pleaded guilty in a separate and unrelated case to illegally possessing a firearm. **Anthony Long** admitted that he was in possession of a High Standard .22-caliber revolver on Oct. 19, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who is subject to a court order of protection to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. On April 28, 2004, **Anthony Long's** wife was granted a full order of protection by the Jackson County Circuit Court that restrained him from harassing, stalking and threatening her.

The fraud case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda Parker Marshall and was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The firearm case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel M. Nelson and was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow